



In Memory...Burlita Best

Transportation Cabinet employee Burlita Best past away on January 3, 2006 as the result of injuries she sustained in an automobile accident. Burlita was a familiar face to many people in the Transportation Cabinet, having worked for the Cabinet for more than 16 years.

Burlita's career at KYTC included working as a receptionist and secretary in the State Highway Engineer's Office, Contract Procurement and Professional Services. For the past year, she worked in the Office of Inspector General.

Burlita was born on July 21, 1967 in Owen County, Kentucky to Robert "Bobby" L. and Jean Hammond Jones. She was a member of Peaks Mill Baptist Church, and attended Hope Community Church in Lawrenceburg. She was a 1985 graduate of Owen County High School and a former cheerleader coach for the ACYC Cheerleaders.

Most will remember Burlita for her positive attitude and friendly personality. She leaves behind a 12-year-old daughter and her husband Tom. Her father, Bobby Jones, is a KYTC employee in the Division of Equipment.

Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Message from the Best Family

Words cannot adequately describe our heartfelt appreciation for the concern and expressions of sympathy offered by so many of you who knew and loved Burlita Best. Your outreach to our family during this most difficult of times has been touching. The meals, calls, visitation and prayers have truly sustained and uplifted us spiritually. Burlita had many friends throughout the Cabinet and state government and your response to her tragic death is truly a testament to Burlita's love of life and value of friendship.

With deepest gratitude,

The Family of Burlita Best

COMMUNITY OUTREACH INITIATIVES ADDED TO CABINET'S AGENDA

Members of the Transportation Cabinet's executive staff are volunteering to do good works throughout nearby communities. These efforts are part of the cabinet's newly established **Community Outreach Initiative**.

The outreach initiative grew out of a Christmastime visit by Secretary Nighbert and several members of his staff to the Hope Center in Lexington where they served lunch to homeless people who regularly depend on that facility for meals.

"Our visit to the Hope Center was a truly eye-opening experience," said Secretary Nighbert. "We were confronted with the life situations of many less fortunate people. From that experience, we realized that we really could make a difference in the community by taking the time to *reach out*."

The cabinet's community outreach volunteers also served lunch to those who rely on Frankfort's "Soup Kitchen" for a good meal. The "Soup Kitchen", a center operated by the Coalition of Committed Christians, is located on West 2nd Street in Downtown Frankfort.

Shaunee Lynch, the Cabinet's Deputy Director for Public Affairs, organized the Hope Center visit and has coordinated the Cabinet's **Community Outreach Initiatives**. "Secretary Nighbert decided that we should make this



more than a once-a-year effort," Lynch said. "We now intend to make this a monthly project. There are many different ways that we can make a difference in our communities. We've just begun to explore a few opportunities."

The **Community Outreach Initiative** will be reaching out to children oriented organizations and others during the months ahead.